20020525.qrp v02_n566.qrl.20020525

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 19:03:05 EDT
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 2566

QRP-L Digest 2566

Topics covered in this issue include:

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 07:20:57 +0100
From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [127291] Parts Storage Cheap
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20020525070754.009f2590@mail.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Gang,

Well, put in 3 one meter long shelves above the workbench today
after running to Home Depot to get the lumber. Since I was going
into town anyway (sounds like Farmer John living out in the country

having to plan for these trips like it was going to another state :-))
I stopped at Osco Drugs to check if one could buy pill bottles.

Sure enough you can. I bought 105 (weird count for a box of vials)
in a box for $16.85 with easy off lids. These are made by Owens-Brockway
and are part number Y-40 and labeled Screw-Loc (R) O-I Yellow Vials.

Each bottle/vial is 4.5cm in diameter and 8.5cm deep. They are highly
transparent so that you can see what you stored in them and of course
you can put a simple label on the outside or use a permanent marker
to indicate what, when, where, and how much you paid for it......
Let your imagine run wild on this one. :-)

With a shelf depth of 30 cm you can place these 5 deep and not take up
the whole meter but about 2/3 of the shelf and have room left over.

Many many years ago I posted a note about using coin envelopes for
storage that are 8cm by 13.8cm and can be found in any good office
supply store for about $20 for 500 of the critters. But they are useful
only for the flat stuff.

The pill bottles are handy for hardware, 2SC799's and all kinds of PA
transistors, brackets, LEDs, and anything that takes up three
dimensional space and not easily fit into an envelope or you have
in enough quantity to justify use of a bottle. Don't put ICs in these
things as they are not rated anti-static!!!

So you don't have to be taking drugs and meds to get a good supply
of these puppies for storage and organization. I needed to do this
so that I could find stuff for a number of projects that came up.

Hope this gives you some ideas. No thread needed on it.

FYI,

Chuck Adams, K7QO CP-60 k7qo@earthlink.net
http://www.qsl.net/k7qo

Moving to Arizona? --- Bring your own water, please.

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 16:21:28 -0700
From: "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>

To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127292] Beacons
Message-ID: <003901c20379$bf314ac0$b3142aa2@bobbaxte>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For anyone interested in checking beacons, look at Beacon Clock freeware
at
http://www.huntting.com/beaconclock/

Bob Baxter AA7EQ
Bisbee, Az.

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 19:36:52 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [127293] Yet another hack attempt
Message-ID: <002a01c2037b$e38e26c0$010044c0@chartermi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I know we are all tired of computer talk, but this one worried me.

I just received an email from "Microsoft Corporation Security Center" with
an update for Internet Explorer. This seemed pretty suspicious, so I
examined the headers and found that the message did not, in fact, come from
a server within Microsoft.

The message contained an executable attachment. Although my copy of Norton
AntiVirus didn't recognize a virus, the attachment was too small to be an
update from Microsoft, and while rummaging through the file with a hex
editor didn't reveal anything especially suspicious, it sure didn't look
like an update to IE, either. Looked more like a script kiddie's VB
program.

I didn't go disassemble the whole thing, but a quick look made it look as if
this is something that installs itself into your system, perhaps with the
intent of phoning home with some information. I couldn't tell who "home"
was or what may be of interest to it.

Anyway, the message was very convincing, sounding for all the world like it

came from Microsoft. If after getting this message you feel compelled to apply the patch, I would urge you to go to Microsoft's web site and download a fresh copy.

I cannot say with 100% certainty that this is bogus, but all the evidence points that way.

72/73 de WB8RCR   http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr
didileydadidah   QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 18:43:31 -0700
From: "Jim N0UR" <n0ur@attbi.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127294] FDIM Rookie hits jackpot!
Message-ID: <000901c2038d$934f1220$6a202942@mn.ipsvc.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I know.....another FDIM report, sorry.

This was my first trip to Dayton/FDIM. Enjoyed meeting some for the faces behind the calls I've worked over the years. Wish I could of meet more.

One of the highlights was banquet on Saturday night, good food and good people. Thanks to the very generous folks at Elecraft, my call was picked as the winner of a K1-4 prize. The grand prize in my eyes. The best part was both Eric and Wayne were present so I could personally thank them.

Already looking forward to next year.

72s
Jim N0UR

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 18:44:27 -0500
From: "Rob Matherly" <kc0bom@arrl.net>
To: <wb8rcr@arrl.net>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127295] Re: Yet another hack attempt
Message-ID: <007b01c2037d$0427aea0$7911a541@intern01>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

"I cannot say with 100% certainty that this is bogus, but all the evidence points that way."

Your instincts were right... it is :^)

72/73/oo
Rob, W JRM
ARRL; FP QRP -330; IA QRP #143; SOC #497; QRPp-I #19; Live-Wire #442;

Visit my website! http://www.qsl.net/w0jrm

"Those who control their tongue will have a long life;
     a quick retort can ruin everything"   -- Proverbs 13:3 NLT

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 18:45:24 -0500
From: Robert G Seymour <bobsey1@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [127296] CODE PRACTICE
Message-ID: <20020524.184526.-94143.1.bobsey1@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks-----A friend of mine, a 13 year old ham in El Salvador is looking for computer CW programs. He is a general class in the US (KD5KWN) but his present call is YS1AE. (he has dual citizenship). If anyone has any sites to check out, send them to me or you can send direct to:
Aaron Mast. e-mail   wilsharon@telemovil.net
He is anxious to get his code speed up so we can talk on CW and avoid the SSB wars!.
Any help will be greatly appreciated.
Thanks,
Bob Seymour, W0LK

http://dl.www.juno.com/get/web/.

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 19:47:27 -0400
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [127297] Re: Yet another hack attempt
Message-ID: <003e01c2037d$5e2b8160$010044c0@chartermi.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

By way of followup - I should have thought of this earlier.

I found this on Microsoft's site:
http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/virus/alerts/gibe.asp

The security bulletin referenced in the email contained a different executable name (although similar) than the email. When I searched Microsoft's site for the exe name, I came up with the trojan alert.

So it is, in fact, bogus. Don't install it.

72/73 de WB8RCR   http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr
didileydadidah   QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

----- Original Message -----
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
Subject: Yet another hack attempt

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 17:09:39 -0700
From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>, azqrp <azqrp@extremezone.com>
Subject: [127298] RE: K7RE Move to SD
Message-ID: <3CEED642.6E3983C5@dancris.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gangue:

I want to publically thank all of the fine comments from folks concerning my impending move to SD. I have replied to each of these messages individually, but just wanted to let everyone know how much better I feel about the transition. This list consists of some very fine folks, but then you probably already knew that!

Brian K7RE

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 18:38:11 -0600
From: tailfeathers@juno.com
To: bkassel@dancris.com
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [127299] Re: K7RE Move to SD
Message-ID: <20020524.183812.-1538311.5.tailfeathers@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just wondering where did the 7 call originate? It just about got back home. :>)

Gary

> I want to publically thank all of the fine comments from folks
> concerning my impending move to SD. I have replied to each of these
> messages individually, but just wanted to let everyone know how
> much
> better I feel about the transition. This list consists of some
> very
> fine folks, but then you probably already knew that!
>
> Brian K7RE
>

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 21:13:18 -0400
From: Harry Hurst <wa3ptg@comcast.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [127300] HB - fet vfos & NE602s
Message-ID: <HIEKLOODELDPNBOHKICHEEOLCBAA.wa3ptg@comcast.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=Windows-1252
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

There was a good response to my query about solder. I'll post the summary sometime this weekend. I scrapped up enough solder from various tool boxes and shop drawers to hold me until the next hamfest.

OK, I've been using J212 fets. I bought them for very cheap a few years ago, and since then whenever a circuit called for an MPF102, 2N4416, 2N5484-6, etc, I've just stuck the J212 in the circuit and it works every time. How different are these small signal fets?

The other "I wonder" is about the oscillator on the NE602. I've read here and there some ominous warnings against it's use(the oscillator, not the NE602!). How much difference does it really make? Does it heat up the chip? Does it interfere with the mixer in some way? Does it make a real difference?

Meltin' solder and wondering

72
Hap, WA3PTG
Wilmington DE

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 22:39:14 -0400
From: "Tom" <kf4yyd@adelphia.net>
To: <w3irz@att.net>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127301] Crystal designators (Thanks)
Message-ID: <029301c20395$5c419ed0$9865fea9@yourze8cxvr8tt>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just wanted to thank everyone who responded to my query. I didn't know that there that many different types of crystals. The more I look into this project the more I see how much I don't know. Of course, that's what should

make this project fun. Besides I can't wait to play 'Old Timer' and use a lightbulb to dip and peak the plate tank and antenna tank ckt's.
    One other question while I'm at it, can anybody recommend a good web site or book for tube theory? I want to know how this thing works as well as just building it.
    BTW Mike, I assumed, that because this was called a "low power" transmitter that this referred to five watts or less. However, I now see it was designed for about 35 watts of output pwr. (6AG7/6L6 MOPA)
Thanks,
Tom kf4yyd
----- Original Message -----
From: "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 2:13 PM
Subject: Re: Crystal designators

> Hi Tom, despite what others may say go ahead and use whatever crystals you find in your tube rig and they will work just fine. At QRP levels the small crystals will do just fine. >

Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 22:34:50 -0700
From: "Dave Fifield" <dave@redhotradio.com>
To: <n0ur@attbi.com>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127302] Re: FDIM Rookie hits jackpot!
Message-ID: <003101c203ad$e42cec10$0400a8c0@AD6A>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Don't be sorry Jim, we love to hear all about it.
Congratulations on winning the K1 - it's a great little rig.

Perhaps someone can correct me, but didn't the good
folks that organize FDIM actually pay for the grand
prizes from Elecraft (at least to some extent)?

Also, maybe I missed them, but I have yet to see a single
posting that points to any pictures that were taken at FDIM.
Were/are there any?

72, Dave, AD6A

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jim N0UR" <n0ur@attbi.com>
Subject: FDIM Rookie hits jackpot!

> I know.....another FDIM report, sorry.
(snip)

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 07:20:45 GMT
From: na5n@zianet.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca, inforhc@ip.etecsa.cu
Subject: [127303] Prop for WPX/arci sprint
Message-ID: <20020525072045.25425.qmail@zianet.com>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Gang,
For QRPTTF, things were quiet and stable for a great event ... until we awoke saturday morning and got hit with one of those unexpected coronal hole streams which trashed the bands. John W2AGN, et. al. did a better job of forecasting than did I since they said "Paul's propagation is bound to be the kiss of death for this one," or something to that effect. I got a kick out of those "kiss of death" posts, right up until I too got up saturday morning, hiked to the field, and heard darn near nothing. Ooops! My forecast went down the drain; John's was right :-)

So now I too am paranoid and hesitate to offer my interpretation of current events and how it will effect propagation this weekend. Some felt that too rosy a predication is bound to jinx the event. So I promise not to be so rosy; in fact, even a bit pessimistic. That way the actual propagation experienced this weekend might actually be better than the forecast!

So read the following propagation forecast with caution. I could be wrong. Don't read it if you fear the "NA5N kiss-of-death." You have been warned. I'll even do it in all caps to give it that official, teletype look -- just in case you want to print it out and frame it.

72, Paul NA5N

FROM: CENTRAL RIO GRAND SOLAR FORECAST CENTER (CRSFC)
  TO: ALL QRP'ERS
SUBJ: WEEKEND PROPAGATION FORECAST
FILE: NR 29384-KJH3/77

1. SOLAR FORECAST. AN EXTREMELY LARGE ACTIVE SUNSPOT REGION, EXTENDING FROM THE EASTERN LIMB OF THE SUN TO THE WESTERN, IS EXPECTED TO PRODUCE AN X47 FLARE SATURDAY MORNING. THE FLARE EVENT ITSELF WILL ENGULF THE PLANETS OF MERCURY AND VENUS, SHOWERING THE REST OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM WITH LETHAL DOSES OF GAMMA RADIATION. LASCO SATELLITE IMAGES WILL SHOW A FULL HALO CME WITH AN ESTIMATED SHOCK VELOCITY OF ABOUT HALF THE SPEED OF LIGHT. THIS MEANS THE EXPANDING SHOCK WAVE WILL HIT THE EARTH IN 4 MINUTES. AT THIS VELOCITY, THERE WILL BE A NEAR TOTAL COLLAPSE OF THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD. WHILE THE SOLAR WIND WILL QUICKLY SUBSIDE TO ABOUT 1000 KM/SEC, WITHOUT THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD, THIS WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO COMPLETELY BLOW-OFF OUR ATMOSPHERE IN ABOUT 20 SECONDS. WITH NO ATMOSPHERE, THERE WILL BE NO D, E OR F LAYERS. ALL HF SIGNALS WILL ESCAPE TO SPACE. OVER THE NEXT HOUR, WITH NO MAGNETIC FIELD OR ATMOSPHERE, THE PERSISTING SOLAR WINDS WILL COMPLETELY STRIP THE EARTH OF ALL LOOSE MATERIAL (DIRT, WATER, BUILDINGS, ETC.) DOWN TO THE BED ROCK OF THE PLANET, EXPOSING THE CONTINENTAL PLATES AND TRIGGERING MASSIVE VOLCANIC ACTIVITY. EARTHQUAKES ARE EXPECTED TO BE BETWEEN 27 AND 54 ON THE RICHTER SCALE.

2. GEOMAGNETIC FORECAST. WITH NO MAGNETIC FIELD, GEOMAGNETIC FORECASTS WILL NO LONGER BE ISSUED WITH THESE ALERTS.

3. SOLAR/GEOMAGNETIC FORECAST
SOLAR FLUX: FRIDAY 181
SATURDAY 138,978
A-INDEX: FRIDAY 11
SATURDAY 47,263,100
PCAF: (POLAR CAP ABSORPTION FACTOR) RED - LIKE REALLY RED

4. AURORAL FORECAST. A FANTASTIC AURORA IS EXPECTED DURING BOTH DAYTIME AND NIGHTIME HOURS, EXTENDING SOUTHWARD TO CUBA, AND EXPECTED TO LAST ABOUT 10,000 YEARS.

5. SPECIAL NOTE. IT IS REMINDED THAT WITH NO MAGNETIC FIELD OR ATMOSPHERE ON MARS, THIS IS WHY THE RED PLANET IS NOTHING BUT BED ROCK AND DUST.

6. PROPAGATION SUMMARY. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, 20M WILL LIKELY BE THE BEST BAND. EXPECT GOOD TRANSEQUATORIAL PROPAGATION, SINCE WE'LL NO LONGER HAVE AN EQUATOR.

FOR SALE: SOLAR SUITS, JUST $5,999. YOU *MUST* ORDER TODAY FOR GUARANTEED FED EX DELIVERY. CASH ONLY.

THE END

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 10:11:22 +0000
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: wa3ptg@comcast.net, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [127304] Re: HB - fet vfos & NE602s
Message-ID: <F206AlzIXhGJPohZC4600005305@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

>From: Harry Hurst <wa3ptg@comcast.net>
>Reply-To: wa3ptg@comcast.net
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: HB - fet vfos & NE602s
>Date: Fri, 24 May 2002 21:13:18 -0400
>
>There was a good response to my query about solder. I'll post the summary
>sometime this weekend. I scrapped up enough solder from various tool boxes
>and shop drawers to hold me until the next hamfest.
>
>OK, I've been using J212 fets. I bought them for very cheap a few years
>ago, and since then whenever a circuit called for an MPF102, 2N4416,
>2N5484-6, etc, I've just stuck the J212 in the circuit and it works every
>time. How different are these small signal fets?

The cheaper ones like the MPF102 tend to have a very wide range of
characteristics. Dearer ones like the J212 should have much tighter
tolerances, and tend to be easier to design with. For amateur use, it
doesn't matter too much, one can always adjust some of the components to get
the circuit to work properly.

>
>The other "I wonder" is about the oscillator on the NE602. I've read here
>and there some ominous warnings against it's use(the oscillator, not the
>NE602!). How much difference does it really make? Does it heat up the
>chip? Does it interfere with the mixer in some way? Does it make a real
>difference?

It will be rather temperature sensitive (at least the inter-electrode
capacitances will be), but the real problem is that it is just a single
transistor, and is not very well isolated from the rest of the circuit,
being on the same substrate. Also, the waveform isn't very good, which will
result in some spurious signals. This didn't matter too much for the

original application, which was as a second mixer in mobile 'phones.

It's worth looking at the device data, on the Philips web site.

73, Leon
--
Leon Heller, G1HSM Tel: +44 1327 359058 Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com
My web page: http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller
My low-cost Altera Flex design kit: http://www.leonheller.com

---

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 10:17:57 +0000
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: k7qo@earthlink.net, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [127305] Re: Parts Storage Cheap
Message-ID: <F164aGltFBNlJbSorxT00005403@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

>From: Chuck Adams <k7qo@earthlink.net>
>Reply-To: k7qo@earthlink.net
>To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: Parts Storage Cheap
>Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 07:20:57 +0100
>
>
>
>Gang,
>
>Well, put in 3 one meter long shelves above the workbench today
>after running to Home Depot to get the lumber. Since I was going
>into town anyway (sounds like Farmer John living out in the country
>having to plan for these trips like it was going to another state :-))
>I stopped at Osco Drugs to check if one could buy pill bottles.

[deleted]

35 mm film canisters are available free from film processing places. They

just throw them away, as a rule. I find one very useful for PCB drills. They aren't usually transparent, though.

I spent some money and bought a couple of those racks with little drawers. I'm not very methodical about where I kepp things, apart from resistors, and usually end up searching serially through the drawers looking for a particular crystal, or something.

Leon
--
Leon Heller, G1HSM Tel: +44 1327 359058 Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com
My web page: http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller
My low-cost Altera Flex design kit: http://www.leonheller.com

---

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 07:00:24 -0400
From: Howard Rubin <hrubin1970@comcast.net>
To: k7qo@earthlink.net,
        Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127306] RE: Parts Storage Cheap
Message-ID: <NGBBIJLJALHNLHMDICMPGEAKCGAA.hrubin1970@comcast.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Parts Junkies,

I've found use of the plastic snack bags to be ideal for stocking resistor and capacitor parts. I use the resealable variety measuring 6-1/2in by 3-1/4in. You'll find them in the grocery store -- 100 bags for a buck or two.

I print a serial list of labels with L*A*R*G*E printing indicating the range of values from 1 ohm to 100 megs or 1 pf to 10,000 uf. I print a few of these on a page (index card size) and slice them up on a cutting board with a sharp knife, then insert one of the labels in each bag. You can make an MSExcel file and read it from MSWord as a mail merge application. The range of values will span from one standard 5% value to the next. The bag provides a nice, protected sleeve for the label. When inserted, the label fills the entire surface area of the bag and gives it structure.

To store the complete set of resistor or capacitor values, I use one of those transparent plastic shoe boxes from the dollar store. I found a box with a hinged lid, but any sort that will hold the plastic bags in file-cabinet order will do fine.

Then when I go cruising for a part value it's a simple matter to thumb through the file to the desired part value and peek through the envelope for an available part. Works great!

Hope this helps,
Howard Rubin, N3FEL

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of Chuck Adams
Sent: Saturday, May 25, 2002 2:21 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Parts Storage Cheap

Gang,

Well, put in 3 one meter long shelves above the workbench today after running to Home Depot to get the lumber. Since I was going into town anyway (sounds like Farmer John living out in the country having to plan for these trips like it was going to another state :-)) I stopped at Osco Drugs to check if one could buy pill bottles.

Sure enough you can. I bought 105 (weird count for a box of vials) in a box for $16.85 with easy off lids. These are made by Owens-Brockway and are part number Y-40 and labeled Screw-Loc (R) O-I Yellow Vials.

Each bottle/vial is 4.5cm in diameter and 8.5cm deep. They are highly transparent so that you can see what you stored in them and of course you can put a simple label on the outside or use a permanent marker to indicate what, when, where, and how much you paid for it.....
Let your imagine run wild on this one. :-)

With a shelf depth of 30 cm you can place these 5 deep and not take up the whole meter but about 2/3 of the shelf and have room left over.

Many many years ago I posted a note about using coin envelopes for storage that are 8cm by 13.8cm and can be found in any good office supply store for about $20 for 500 of the critters. But they are useful only for the flat stuff.

The pill bottles are handy for hardware, 2SC799's and all kinds of PA transistors, brackets, LEDs, and anything that takes up three dimensional space and not easily fit into an envelope or you have in enough quantity to justify use of a bottle. Don't put ICs in these things as they are not rated anti-static!!!

So you don't have to be taking drugs and meds to get a good supply of these puppies for storage and organization. I needed to do this so that I could find stuff for a number of projects that came up.

Hope this gives you some ideas. No thread needed on it.

FYI,

Chuck Adams, K7QO CP-60 k7qo@earthlink.net
http://www.qsl.net/k7qo

Moving to Arizona? --- Bring your own water, please.

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 08:21:28 -0400
From: "Michael C. Boatright" <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: wa3ptg@comcast.net
Subject: [127307] Re: HB - fet vfos
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.2.20020525075300.02338b10@pop.mindspring.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Hap,

I think it was Doug DeMaw, W1FB (SK), that pointed out that the biggest problem with using the built-in oscillator on an NE602 is that there is no post-oscillator filtering before going into the mixer. If memory serves me, it's just a Colpitts oscillator with the feedback capacitive voltage divider outside the IC, as well as the XTAL or other devices to establish the oscillation frequency.

If you were at FDIM, after the banquet Saturday night, I had my W7ZOI Spectrum Analyzer out with a free running, unfiltered (running as a 10MHz marker generator). It was a graphic demonstration of how easily harmonics get generated in a Colpitts oscillator.

Anyway, what can happen because of this is break through of signals on the harmonic (one of the first NE602-based rigs I built tuned somewhere around 3686.4 KHz...which meant that I could beat Radio Canada International on 7.3MHz quite nicely). You can over come this by using good low pass or band pass filtering (check out "Solid State Design for the Radio Amateur" by DeMaw and Hayward), or good IF filtering, if you're building a superhet.

Of course, many external VFO's are added without any harmonic filtering, so they're going to have the same basic trouble (although I think having the oscillator right on the substrate increase the possibility that the harmonics will mix with the input signal.

I've also found that balancing the inputs and outputs of the mixer helps as well (most designs, pins 2 and 4 are ground referenced (usually at AC, that is, there's a .01uF cap to ground, or in the case of the output, sometimes pin 5 is left NC).

Oh, and if you're using the internal oscillator for a transmit mixer, the assumption is that you've got good harmonic filtering on the output of the mixer anyway, so you shouldn't have any problems.

Heating shouldn't be too much of a problem, since all the frequency determining components are outboard of the IC (although they could have heating effects, themselves...some "cheap" radio kits don't even use temperature stable caps (such as NPO's or C0G's), which should always be used at such a critical point in an oscillator circuit for stability.

Does all this mean, DON'T DO IT? Nah, try it out and see how it works in your particular application. YRMV I've seen a ton of those "cheap" NE602 receivers built, and recommend them to new folks all the time. It's not likely to perform like a K2 (or other high performance receiver), but it will get you QRV...

BTW, Paul Harden, NA6N, has a great discussion on NE602's in his "The Electronic Data Book for Homebrewers and QRPers." If you don't have this book, you should (Kanga sells it, I think)--it's twenty of the best bucks I've ever spent.

72 de Mike, KO4WX

PS--If you ever get the opportunity to hear Eric Swartz, WA6HHQ, from Elecraft give his presentation on "High Performance Receiver Design," take it. I heard him at the Huntsville Hamfest. There were a few things over my head, but he really does do a great job of describing the kinds of things you can do in receiver RF design that "separate the men from the boys."
..

Michael C. Boatright

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 08:35:14 -0400
From: W2AGN <w2agn@w2agn.net>
To: na5n@zianet.com,
        Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127308] Re: Prop for WPX/arci sprint
Message-ID: <0205250835140C.05636@jsielke>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

On Saturday 25 May 2002 03:20, na5n@zianet.com wrote:

> 6. PROPAGATION SUMMARY. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, 20M WILL LIKELY BE THE
> BEST BAND. EXPECT GOOD TRANSEQUATORIAL PROPAGATION, SINCE WE'LL NO LONGER
> HAVE AN EQUATOR.

--

Well, there goes 20M, shot to H*ll. We'll not have any propagation now.

      John L Sielke   W2AGN
         w2agn@w2agn.net
      http://www.w2agn.net

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 08:48:11 -0400
From: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127309] Re: HB - fet vfos
Message-ID: <000401c203ea$6e26c3a0$39d81b41@cinci.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ok folks, help me out...

Why do we want to insert a pure/filtered/clean VFO signal into a mixer?
I've seen it all the time, especially in the older ham books where there
is a filter on the output of the VFO.

Seems to me that you would get better conversion gain (lower losses) if
you used a square wave for the VFO, especially a diode ring mixer.

Someone straighten me out...I wanna learn...

72 & "oo's" - Dieter (DIZ) Gentzow - W8DIZ - Loveland, Ohio
Clermont County - EM79uf - near Cincinnati; 39.218N - 84.305W
SOC-8 DLQRPAG-1454 ARCI-10226 ARS-781 QRPL-1998 10X-9389 CATT-26
FP#-1 http://home.cinci.rr.com/w8diz & http://kitsandparts.com

----- Original Message -----
From: "Michael C. Boatright" <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Saturday, May 25, 2002 8:21 AM
Subject: Re: HB - fet vfos

I think it was Doug DeMaw, W1FB (SK), that pointed out that the biggest
problem with using the built-in oscillator on an NE602 is that there is no
post-oscillator filtering before going into the mixer

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 06:50:57 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.com>
To: <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127310] Re: Beacons
Message-ID: <004f01c203ea$d1357f90$6501a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Bob, et.al.

Thanks for the heads up, nice piece of software.

This link: http://www.ncdxf.org/beacon/beaconPrograms.htm has
several other programs, for many operating systems, that folks may
wish to check out. (NOTE: there is even one for the PlamOS)

73, Rod N0RC

----- Original Message -----
From: "bob baxter" <rbaxter@cybertrails.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2002 5:21 PM
Subject: Beacons

> For anyone interested in checking beacons, look at Beacon Clock
freeware
> at http://www.huntting.com/beaconclock/

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 07:13:37 -0600
From: "Rod N0RC" <rod@n0rc.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>,
        "Elecraft-list" <elecraft@mailman.qth.net>,
Subject: [127311] NIST ON-LINE PAPER: PROPERTIES OF OSCILLATOR SIGNALS AND
MEASUREMENT METHODS
Message-ID: <007701c203ed$fc18ee60$6501a8c0@greyrock>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

http://www.boulder.nist.gov/timefreq/phase/Properties/main.htm

>From the introduction: "This paper is a review of frequency
stability measurement techniques and of noise properties of
frequency sources."

73, Rod N0RC

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 09:24:16 -0400
From: "ss lyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
To: "chat qrp" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [127312] Greenspan-Hardin Effect?
Message-ID: <001901c203ef$7831ec80$aac7e742@megalink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The thought occurs that we should be grateful that Paul doesn't feel the need to couch his predictions in the swirl of obfuscation that fed chairman Alan Greenspan must employ to avoid triggering economic cataclysm. Just imagining a similarly cloaked propagation report had me in stitches this morning. Fortunately, NA5N seems to have preserved his sense of humor and now he's established a Base Line Downer forecast (BLD in scientific terms) we all should keep in mind. Wouldn't you just love to see the equivalent sent out by Mr Greenspan?
73
AA1MY

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 09:29:10 EDT
From: N4SKS@cs.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [127313] For trade possible sale...QRP PARTS
Message-ID: <17e.8d4cc42.2a20eba6@cs.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang;
   Now that you are back from dayton , all hyped up to build let me make this offer. I must move in a few weeks to a Parsonage . I have collected boxes of stuff for QRP projects over the last 5 years . Plastic parts bins over flowing with torroids , etc. Mini boxes of all kinds , spool after spool of wire ...more than any one needs .I estimate I have spent over $1000 on the pieces . I estimate it will cost $50.00 to ship the boxes of stuff. I also have new digital solder station, special power supplys for building test meter s rf probes etc.again another $700 to $1000 new .
    I am reducing so , I would like to trade for a HF rig that has it's own power supply such as Kenwood TS-530sp , TS 830s . Any one interested please contact me off line . I am sorry I will not split this stuff up .
    I have earlier said I would announce the kits I have and will do that later , maybe today but can not handle hundreds of inquireries. (sp)
.....Thank You for your help.

   Rev. Les Shattuck   K4NK
       Greenville , S.C.

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 10:31:31 -0500
From: <jfox6@houston.rr.com>
To: "QRP" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [127314] KPC3+
Message-ID: <001101c20401$3f11ba40$0924ae18@houston.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
	charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

    Hi... I had purchased a KPC3+ some time ago, and now am trying to get it working on Packet and APRS.
The S./W I have is a trial version of KAWIN. I don't like it, and would prefer Hostmaster II. Where can I get that program?

Regards,

Foxy
jfox6@houston.rr.com
http://www.qsl.net/w5hir

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 11:38:16 EDT
From: Schunn99@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [127315] ic-t8a?
Message-ID: <d3.c0c018e.2a2109e8@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

hey guys,
does anyone have a ic-t8a for sale or knows of a store that still sells them and you live around or near charlotte, NC or know if a store near NC still sells them, it would be a great help.
Thanks,
Scott Hunnicutt
Kg4oqu

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 12:08:41 -0400
From: "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127316] NE 602 oscillators
Message-ID: <008d01c20406$704b67a0$2bec5b0c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
	charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hap raised the question ICW the use of the NE 602 internal oscillator. The only problem would be the possibility of having any oscillator harmonics present in the mixing process. This could cause a spurious response in the RX. Will it matter, probably not but we always make compromises in simple gear. I would say "If in doubt - try it out". Usually spurs are only a problem if they occur and involve a very strong signal or are in the tuning range that is desired. For example a spur in the SSB portion of a band will not affect use of the CW part of the band.

Mike Branca W3IRZ in Conyers Georgia

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 12:09:19 -0700
From: "Jim N0UR" <n0ur@attbi.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127317] WTB: LDG Z-11
Message-ID: <000901c2041f$ac608860$6a202942@mn.ipsvc.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am seriously considering purchasing a Z-11 tuner. Thought I would check to see if anyone had one laying around collecting dust they may consider selling?

Or, any other comments about this tuner.

72s
Jim N0UR

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 13:15:09 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: "w8diz" <w8diz@fpqrp.com>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [127318] Re: HB - fet vfos
Message-ID: <000e01c20428$df878a00$3e4b3b41@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Diz-

You're correct- higher conversion efficiency for a square-wave drive. The output of an oscillator, though, contains not just the fundamental but fairly strong components at the harmonics. If you view an oscillator output on a 'scope, it may not a symmetrical waveform, and this translates into *even* harmonic content.

Mixers are wonderfully tolerant devices- they'll take any ol' LO signal- spurs and all- and faithfully multiply the incoming signal with the LO. If the LO has significant even-harmonic content or non-harmonic spurs the mixer will happily* generate unanticipated products. The sensitivity of the receiver to LO spurs is 1:1; that is, an LO spur down 60 dB will yield a mixing product down 60 dB. Close-in spurs (in particular) in the LO are problematic in that they'll yield unwanted receiver responses from amateur signals close by in frequency. LO purity dictates the Spurious-free Dynamic Range (SFDR) of a receiver for *close-in* signals.

To the extent that the mixer products are well outside the amateur band of interest, receiver front-end tuned circuits will provide enough selectivity that you won't hear the spurious responses- they're below the noise floor. Yes- the mixer square-wave drive *will* provide plenty of 3rd, 5th, ... harmonic sensitivity but that's what front-end filtering is for. The LO output filter does have some beneficial effect in removing even- and non-harmonic LO content above the filter cutoff frequency so it's 'goodness'.

73- Dave

*apologies for the anthropomorphism

****
Dave Benson, K1SWL
dave@smallwonderlabs.com
http://smallwonderlabs.com
Phone/fax 860-537-8031
****
>>-----Original Message-----
From: w8diz <w8diz@fpqrp.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Why do we want to insert a pure/filtered/clean VFO signal into a mixer?
I've seen it all the time, especially in the older ham books where there is a filter on the output of the VFO.
Seems to me that you would get better conversion gain (lower losses) if you used a square wave for the VFO, especially a diode ring mixer.
<<

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 11:52:51 -0400
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
To: ". Eastern PA QRP Club" <EPA-QRP@yahoogroups.com>,
        "NoVAQRP" <NoVaQRP@topica.com>, "NJQRP" <njqrp@njqrp.org>,
Subject: [127319] Rainbow Tuner kits are gone again
Message-ID: <000801c2040f$fbd2c530$bcc23ad0@GHLTP4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just a quick note to let you know that we've gone through the second run of
20 Rainbow Tuner kits now there are no more left in stock.

The project is being retired again for another year or so ... thanks for
everyone's support with this project!

73, George N2APB
  n2apb@amsat.org
  for the NJQRP at http://www.njqrp.org

PS: If you missed this second availability of the kit, you can always
homebrew one from the information contained on the project's webpage at
http://www.njqrp.org/rb_home.html

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 14:34:03 -0400
From: aluscre <aluscre@neo.rr.com>
To: unlisted-recipients:; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127320] Who built tube transmitter for FDIM
Message-ID: <200205251833.g4PIXjJ05864@clmboh1-smtp3.columbus.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

Who built tube transmitter for FDIM building competiton ? The project is
from the

pages of a vintage QST article The Most Inexpensive Transmitter   a
complete
crystal osillator for $3.95 by Byron Goodman.

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 15:55:22 -0400
From: Ed Kessler <edkess@pa.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [127321] Norcal Cascade Fun
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20020525154632.009e90a0@mail.pa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Good afternoon,

I just finished building/tweaking a partially built Norcal Cascade that I received in a trade from Craig, NR4E. First QSO was on 20m with AA4HP, Bob in Titusville, FL. Sig report was 57.

On 20m the rig is putting out about 3 watts peak. Is this normal, average, or should I expect a bit more? I haven't built the 80m module yet, although I'm anxious to get it working on 80.

Any tips from other Cascade builders would be greatly appreciated. I do have the errata and some mod sheets.

Painted the enclosure my trademark "metalflake" Cherry Red. With black knobs and black tuning dial it looks cool or should I say, "hot." Hi.

73
Ed AA3SJ

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 16:25:09 -0400
From: "Michael C. Boatright" <ko4wx@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [127322] Re: Who built tube transmitter for FDIM
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.2.20020525162342.023184d0@pop.mindspring.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I think you're talking about the QST article transmitter that Mike Branca, W3IRZ, built. It sure was a gem. And Howard, K2UD's stuff was immaculate...

72 de Mike, KO4WX
Michael C. Boatright

Date: Sat, 25 May 2002 17:15:19 -0400
From: "Henry Freedenberg" <henryf@quartz.gly.fsu.edu>
To: fpqrp-l@mpna.com, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [127323] Pelf Storage
Message-ID: <3CEFC6A7.2522.298668@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

With a nod to the recent parts storage thread I must report that a recent journey to
the local super Wal-Mart proved quite productive.

In the fishing section I found something called a Renegade storage system which contained 4 divided removable trays in a wall mountable/field-portable carrier. The
divided trays have adjustable partitions and are ideal for storing small parts and hardware. Dont think that they are static resistant so you might not want to store IC's,
FET's etc in the cases but the system is fine for hardware and passive components and some IC's. Total cost for the system is $8.88

Still trying to figure out how many Renegades I can store in the four divided cases.

Good Luck

Henry

"Pelf to the People"

End of QRP-L Digest 2566

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